

NEWSLETTER



Ph: 412-653-1555 • 650 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills • July 2018

American Legion • Post 712 • Pleasant Hills



Note from the Commander Elect

*Lee Phillips
Service Officer
American Legion Post 712*



LEGION OFFICERS

Commander
FRANK CAPUTO

1st Vice Commander
DON SMOLEY

2nd Vice Commander
CRAIG KERN

Adjutant
THAD WEIDMANN

Finance Officer
BILL MARTINIS

Service Officer
LEE PHILLIPS

Chaplin
EDWARD HLAD

Judge Advocate
NICHOLAS
KRAWEC ESQ.

Sgt-At-Arms
BILL WEIKEL

It was not an easy decision for me to put my name in the hat to take on the responsibility of becoming Commander of our American Legion Post 712. It is an honor that I do not take lightly, and I thank all for their support and well wishes. As Commander I am sure there will many challenges ahead of us which we as a Post 712 will tackle one at a time. We have many experienced members to whom I will look for guidance.

With the help of our Sergeant-of-Arms, Bill Weikel, the meetings will last about 45 minutes. There will be a forum/Order of Business that will be followed. All Officers will have a copy in hand at the start of the meeting. I urge all veterans to attend on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm sharp. 15 veterans are needed to make a quorum for this meeting, so we need your interest!

I will plan a weekly meeting with the Home Association President as well as a separate weekly meeting with the Adjutant.

I will also request individual monthly meetings with the Presidents of the Sons, Auxiliary, and Riders.

We are planning several events to commemorate milestones in the upcoming months. I will be asking for more members to volunteer and get involved as the need arises. Please consider volunteering, especially if you have never volunteered at our Post before. We could use and would really appreciate your help!

On June 1, 2018, I was honored to be part of an Honor Guard detail with **Bill Allen, Tom Bodner, Ed Harmon, Frank Piatek, Don Rottman, Larry Murin,** and **Craig Kern** for students at McClellan Elementary School in Pleasant Hills for a DARE Program.

On Thursday June 7, 2018, members of AL Post 712 joined ranks with VFW Post 1810 for a service for former Senior Vice Commander of AL Post 712 and

(continued on page 2)



From the Desk of the Adjutant

Thad Weidmann

We at the Legion ran into several unusual problems costing several thousands of dollars the past couple of months that we were not expecting. I suspect that some of you may have had situations along similar lines.

First: We had our AC maintenance vendor come out to do routine preventive maintenance on our rooftop AC units to prepare for summer usage. We assumed that they may need to replace belts etc. They found extensive damage to multiple motors and squirrel cage fans on 2 units.

Second: One of our bar TVs was intermittently losing color. We suspected loose cables on the back of the cable box because the color would come back occasionally when someone was moving them. It turned out that the TV was defective. Since the lower cost of new TVs make repairing old ones uneconomical, we upgraded the main TV and the side TV with larger units. Because one of the old TVs was still usable, we redeployed it in the Social Hall for use by those renting it for family events to display family pictures, home movies etc., or to display spread sheets, Power Point presentations, movies etc. for business meetings or for stuff like Bingo Display boards for fund raisers etc.

Third: We had a major problem with our 2 office PCs running out of hard drive space. The free space was continuing to go down for no apparent reason, even when no applications were running. It eventually got down to zero free space available. We deleted old files and used Windows cleanup programs to free up space, but that soon disappeared also. We suspected malware, but we're running antivirus and use these PCs for paying bills, membership and controlling key cards, not to surf the web. When we first did a check of all main directories and added up all the usage, we came up with less than 100 GB used on a 500 GB hard drive. We were missing over 400 GB of space. We went back and did a more detailed check of sub-directories and found some that would say you don't have permission to look at them,

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(continued from page 1)

former Commander of VFW Post 1810, Alfred "Al" DiLembo, a highly decorated WWII pilot who flew 39 missions over enemy territory.

Last but not least, I want to take this opportunity to thank Frank Caputo for his leadership this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Phillips

Commander Elect

American Legion Post 712



(continued from previous column)

but would give you the option to turn on access if you were logged in as an administrator. We looked at over 50 sub-directories and turned on access to any that were initially not viewable. When we turned on permission to view the '\Windows\Temp' directory, we discovered the missing 400 GB of space. We deleted all the files in '\Windows\Temp' directory and got our free space back. A check on the web shows a problem with Windows 7 that can cause it to create log files with names like 'cab_xxxx'. I would like to give a shout out to Paul McQuade, who created our Legion web site, for his assistance in resolving our problem. Paul is investigating the reason for the creation of the log files.

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MARGARITAVILLE

JULY 7 MENU

Volcano Nachos	Grilled Corn
Calypso Kabobs	Fiesta Fries
Baja Burgers	Island Rice
Hula Dogs	

Pineapple Upside Down Cake
Funnel Cake




Our Kitchen will be closed the month of July while we referbish it to get ready for opening it again under new management in August

POST 712
HOME ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS

President
BOB STOODT

Vice President
FRANK CAPUTO

Secretary
ED HARMON

Treasurer
BILL WEIKEL

Board Members
DAVE BILSKI

ROB BUTELLI

BOB BRANCHEN

JOHN DILLON

NICK KRAWEC, ESQ.

CRAIG KERN

LEE PHILLIPS

Are you planning to attend the Legion Picnic?

When: **AUGUST 11, 2018**

Where: **ANDREW REILLY PARK**
Rt 885 (same as last year)

You need to **call in OR let a bartender know** so that we can get a head count as to how many will be there. The picnic will be catered this year and the Post will pick up half of the cost.

Please do this on or before July 6



10th Annual Benefit Ride **Saturday, August 4th**

to support Veterans in need through the
Veterans Place of Washington Boulevard
and American Legion Post 712 Veterans Fund.



Kickstands up at 10 AM

from the Kurt J. Lesker Company
(1925 Route 51, Jefferson Hills, PA 15025).

Registration begins at 9 AM though

Riders . . . \$25
Passengers . . . \$15

pre-registration is encouraged to
guarantee Commemorative.

Includes dinner, mid-ride two drinks, fun and camaraderie.

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Sons of the Legion,

This month

"Shake Rattle and Roll"



will be on the

12th and 26th

at 7:30 . . .

Come out and try your luck.

It is an easy game to play.

Gary C. Hartman,
Commander of the SAL

SAL OFFICERS
Commander GARY HARTMAN
Sr. Vice Commander DON W. GOULDER
Jr. Vice Commander DON J. GOULDER
Adjutant MIKE HAVERTY
Finance Officer RICHARD HARTMAN
Chaplin AL DANKO
Sgt-At-Arms TIM MOWRY



Auxiliary Corner,

Thank you to all the Ladies who donated their time and all the delicious deserts for the visit from the Southwestern Veterans Hospital on June 4th. Thank you to the Post members who helped push the wheel chairs from the bus. The vets said it was the best Post visit they ever had! They loved the flags and the send-off that they had. No meeting in June. The next meeting will be July 23rd. Please try to attend as we will be discussing the convention.

God Bless and Protect our Troops,

Mary Ann Marunich

ALA President

Saturday, June 23, 2018 11:00 AM **Subject:** Carol Vangura

Ron Vangura called to say that Carol is in Jefferson ICU with pneumonia. Ron is asking for prayers. She came home from Mercy Hospital on Thursday. She has no feeling in her legs. The tumor or mass is pressing on her back. She can have no more chemo or radiation.

Please pray that she will not suffer.

God Bless You, Barb Terihpy, ALA Chaplain

ALA OFFICERS
President MARY ANN MARUNICH
1st Vice President DONNA McCRUMB
2nd Vice President VICKY GOLDEN
Secretary MARGARET PHILLIPS
Treasurer ANNE GIOVANNITTI
Chaplain BARBARA TERIHAY
Sgt-At-Arms ROSE BREEN
Sgt-At-Arms DONNA ROTTMAN
Sgt-At-Arms PAT O'TOOLE

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President
JOHN DILLON

Sr. Vice President
KEN LANCASTER

Vice Presidents
BILL ALLAN
KEVIN JACKSON

Secretary
SUSAN DILLON

Adjutant
LLOYD RAY

Chaplain
MARK SMITH

Treasurer
BEVERLY WEIKEL

Deputy Treasurer
BILL WEIKEL

Sr. Sergeant-at-Arms
TOM BODNER

Sergeant-at-Arms
ED HARMON

Sr. Road Captain
DAN OELER

Road Captain
BOB STEFANIC

Greetings Legionnaires:

And now for some very good news, the Riders are happy to announce we presented a donation of \$1,000 to Post 712 Commander-elect Lee Phillips for the Post 712 Veterans Fund. The fund is used to help Veterans in need and to conduct events for Veterans. The money was raised by the Riders during our most recent gun raffle. A very heart-felt thank you to all who purchased a ticket and Good Luck Commander-elect Phillips. We know you'll do great things!

Congratulations to the newly elected Officers of the Riders for the 2018 – 2019 year: **President John Dillon; Senior VP Ken Lancaster; VP Rob Mansberry; Sr. Road Captain Dan Oeler; Road Captains Bob Stefanic; Brian Kohl and James Cahill; Sr. Sergeant-at-Arms Tom Bodner; Sergeant-at-Arms Erich Collins; Secretary Susan Dillon; Adjutant Lloyd Ray; Deputy Adjutant Loren Contreras; Treasurer Beverly Weikel; Deputy Treasurer Bill Weikel and Chaplain Mark Smith.** Candidates submitted their Intentions to the Riders Adjutant during May and elections were held in June followed by a great buffet prepared by the Soldier's Place Restaurant. The food was great! Thank you to all the Officers for stepping up to lead by example to give your time and efforts in support Veterans and the Community. It's amazing what we can do when we work as a team. You guys rock!

Thank you, on behalf of the Post 712 community, to the Riders who volunteered to fill the Honor Guard Rifle Team on Memorial Day. This day, above all others, is a hallowed day of reflection and thanks. We Remember and honor those who did so much for our Nation. These Riders took it upon themselves to make sure the job got done and our honored dead were remembered properly with a 21 Gun Salute. For those who understand, no further explanation is needed. For those who do not understand, no explanation will do. Thank you: **Erich Collins; Loren Contreras; Brian Kohl; Ed Very and Ghost Rider Larry Murin.** Well Done!

In addition, the Riders recently honored three members of the Post 712 Community for the work they do to support of the Riders and others in the Legion family. These three persons are now officially designated as, **Ghost Riders**, fully vested in the mantra of the Riders to aid Veterans in need and mutual support of the Legion family. Thank you **Larry Murin, Don Rottman and Donna Rottman**, for the great work you do to support all members of the Legion family and to support our Veterans and our Community alike. No couch potatoes here, Leading by example!

On to Post news, the Riders want to congratulate Commander-elect Lee Phillips on his victory during June elections and wish him great luck in his endeavors. Post 712 is a great place, but it takes the full team effort of everyone, the Post, the Home Association, the Riders, Sons and ALA working together to keep the doors open – and we need to do better. As we look forward to the coming year with Commander-elect Phillips let's all support him to ensure Post 712 remains an active and vibrant place for Veterans and their families for years to come. And even better, consider stepping up to take a position on the Post or Home Association boards or become active in the Riders, Sons or ALA. If you want change, if you have voiced your opinion, now is finally the time to get off your fourth point of contact and do something about it

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

rather than just sitting around cackling. See you at the volunteer table.

Now I would like to acknowledge two highly deserving organizations; the **Kurt J. Lesker Company** and especially the **Lesker family**, whom we have gotten to know over the years; as they have done so very much to support the Riders, local children and the Community at-large. This is a family-operated and family-oriented international business in our own back yard that truly gives back to the community and I look forward too many more years of this great relationship. The Lesker family are great folks and people of action to the benefit of the community and all of us. We humbly thank you for all you do! Another shout out goes to the **Pleasant Hills Police Department and Chief Brian Finnerty**. PHPD is always willing to support Post 712 Veterans and aid the Riders and Honor Guard with Police escorts and traffic control on key days such as Memorial Day. Chief Finnerty, a Veteran himself, is a member of Post 712 and a strong supporter of our Post and Veterans alike. Thank you PHPD for all you do and know that we support the *Thin Blue Line*.

If you are wondering what you can do to support Veterans and our Community, talk to President-elect Phillips and become a person of action!

***The next Riders meeting . . .
1900 hours, Tuesday, July 3rd.
See you there.***

We Are Legion,

Top



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Jimmy Buffett Party
July 7
See Menu on Page 3

***Our Kitchen
will be closed
the month of July
while we referbish it
to get ready
for opening it
again under
new management
in August***

WHAT IS A GHOST RIDER?

American Legion Post 712 loss a special friend and member on Father's Day. Larry Murin passed away suddenly. He received a special award from the Riders at their last meeting when he became a Ghost Rider.

A "Ghost Rider" is a volunteer who works with the riders and does not own a motorcycle but helps any way they can.

Larry was one of the first to receive this special recognition and he was extremely proud of the presentation by President John Dillon.

I had the privilege to work with Larry on several occasions and he will surely be missed. He made the day enjoyable.

Larry was also known around the Post as the "The Candy Man" he always had a bag of penny candy that he passed out to whoever wanted a piece.

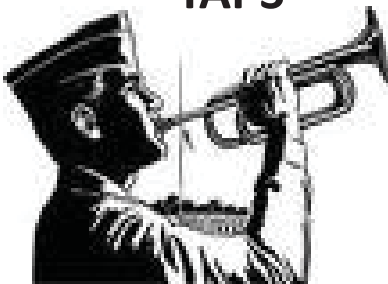
He made the Post a better place because of his presence, he will be clearly missed.

As long as he is remembered *he is not gone.*

Till we ride again, fair well my friend and fellow Ghost Rider.

Don Rottman

TAPS



May you rest in peace my friend.

**AL DILEMBO
6/2018**

**LARRY MURIN
6/2018**

**DeROSE
5/2018**